

Sagaponack Common School District

Shared Decision Making Team & District-Wide Safety Team Minutes

Meeting May 11, 2026

1. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Finello at 2:45 pm on Monday, May 11, 2026.
2. The following members were in attendance
 - a. Mr. Finello, Superintendent/Principal
 - b. Mr. Scammell, Co-Lead Teacher
 - c. Mrs. Lombardo, Co-Lead Teacher
 - d. Ms. Baylinson, Teacher
 - e. Mrs. Hatgistavrou, Community Member
 - f. Mr. Allsop, Parent
 - g. Mr. Sam Schnieder, EH UFSD Assistant Superintendent for Business
 - h. Ms. Lindajean Toner, EH UFSD School Bus Driver Coordinator
 - i. Richard Balserus, BH Fire Department, 2nd Assistant Chief
3. The committee reviewed the minutes of the last meeting. The minutes were approved.
4. Mr. Finello discussed summer building projects planned for the 2026-27 school year. The playground side of the building will be re-shingled and painted. The garbage bins will be painted this year, and the district will look into rebuilding them in the future. Additional summer maintenance projects include screening the floors and completing interior touch-ups throughout the building. Mr. Finello also noted the need to watch for damage caused by woodpeckers.
5. Mr. Finello discussed enrollment projections for 2026, with an anticipated total of 18–20 students. The district is currently in the process of conducting screenings. The Board expressed its goal of maintaining approximately four students per grade level. There is currently a waitlist for pre-k and kindergarten.
6. Mr. Finello discussed the budget for the coming school year. The Board adopted the proposed budget of \$2,020,169.00 which is approximately a \$65,000.00 decrease from the current school year budget. The district will remain at the tax cap, resulting in an estimated \$80 tax increase per household. Transportation costs were reduced by contracting with East Hampton Union Free School District for bus transportation services.
7. Mr. Finello discussed the District-Wide Safety Plan for the 2026–2027 school year. Each year, the district is required to review the plan, discuss any revisions, and present

those changes to the Board for a 30 day public hearing. The plan was approved last year, and Mr. Finello reviewed the updated sections with the committee members. Changes discussed included:

- Page 3: Trauma-informed practices — drills or demonstrations that simulate traumatic events are no longer permitted; only discussions are allowed.
- Page 4: “Hold in Place” drills were added to the list of required drills. During these drills, students and teachers may move throughout the building until an all-clear announcement is given. Teachers are also required to wear panic buttons at all times.
- Page 5: The school has transitioned to “Textedly” for school-to-parent communication.
- Page 8: Bus transportation changes from Sag Harbor to East Hampton were reviewed.

8. Mr. Finello announced that visitation for incoming students will take place on Wednesday, June 3, 2026, from 1:15–2:15 p.m. He also reminded committee members that the Sally Peterson Memorial Scholarship Committee Bake and Plant Sale will take place Saturday May 23rd. A scholarship is awarded to a graduate of Sagg School that is ready to graduate high school and attend college.

9. With no further questions or comments, the meeting was adjourned at 3:23 p.m.